

St. Pius X Parish

2305 Bloor Street West, Toronto ON M6S 1P1

Tel. 416-767-1859 Fax. 416-767-7715

office@saintpiusx.ca www.saintpiusx.ca



Grow Your Faith With Us

Pastoral Staff

Fr. Massillamani Zacharias

(Fr. Mani), **Pastor**

Michelle Somers, **Parish Secretary**

Anselm Kerkos-De Souza, **Sacramental Preparation Coordinator**

Office Hours

Tuesday to Friday
9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Weekend Masses

Saturday 5 pm
Sunday 9 am and 11 am

Weekday Masses

Tuesday - Friday 8:30 am

Rosary and Divine Mercy Prayer

9 am following Mass at 8:30 am
Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday

Devotions to our Mother of Perpetual Help

9 am following Mass at 8:30 am Thursday

Benediction & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Every first Friday of the month at 9 am
following 8:30 am Mass

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

Saturday 4 pm to 4:30 pm or by appointment

Sacrament of Baptism

Register online at www.saintpiusx.ca/baptism, or call or email the office for more information

Sacrament of Marriage

1 year advance notice is required
Call or email the office for an appointment

Parish Ministries/Committees/Organizations

- Altar Servers
- Lectors
- Eucharistic Ministers
- Ushers/Greeters
- Musicians
- Sacramental Preparation for First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion, and Confirmation
- Collection Counters
- Finance Council
- Building Committee
- Volunteer Screening Committee
- Catholic Women's League

Catholic School

St. Pius X Catholic School
71 Jane Street Tel: 416-393-5237

Holy Communion for SHUT-INS and SICK

If you know of anyone who is sick and would like to have communion brought to them or would like the Sacrament of the Sick, or simply would like to be included in the Prayers of the Faithful, contact us

New Parishioners: Welcome!

We invite you to join our Parish family by registering with the parish office at www.saintpiusx.ca or by contacting the Office

To Join



To Donate



To Volunteer



PLEASE REMEMBER ST. PIUS X PARISH IN YOUR WILL



Mass Intentions

Saturday, August 29

5 pm Mrs. Elfriede Schaub

Sunday, August 30

9 am + Fortunata Pelingon

11 am Parishioners

Tuesday, September 1

8:30 am + Kazimirs Kucinskis

Wednesday, September 2

8:30 am + Felicitas Toczyłowska

Thursday, September 3

8:30 am Parishioners

Friday, September 4

8:30 am Parishioners



Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Jeremiah 20.7-9

Psalm: Ps 63.1, 2-3, 4-5, 7-8

Second Reading: Romans 12.1-2

Gospel: Matthew 16.21-27



Sponsoring the Sanctuary Lamp

The Sanctuary lamp signifies the Real Presence of Our Lord Jesus Christ. It burns for the greater glory of God. Parishioners are invited to become monthly sponsors of the Sanctuary Lamp. Please contact the parish office if you wish to donate. Doing so becomes an opportunity for friends and families to pray at the Tabernacle, knowing the Lamp burns for their intentions.

The Sanctuary Lamp burns in August for the intentions of: Anna Wong

GOSPEL REFLECTION

"...whoever loses his life for my sake will find it."

Peter goes from being the rock of faith to an obstacle in the Lord's path. But why was Jesus so severe in His response?

Because the stakes were eternal. The Cross is not optional. It is the means of salvation—not just for Jesus, but for all who would follow Him. To think otherwise, even with good intention, is to prefer human comfort over divine wisdom. Peter's protest reflects a natural aversion to suffering, but Jesus exposes it for what it truly is: a stumbling block to the will of the Father.

Peter could not yet understand what it meant to call Jesus the Messiah. It is unlikely that the other disciples understood any better. Messianic expectations were a common aspect of first-century Judaism. Under Roman occupation, many in Israel hoped and prayed that God would send a Messiah to free the Jews from Roman oppression. The common view was that the Messiah would be a political figure, a king that would free Israel from Roman rule. This is perhaps what Peter envisioned when he was led to recognize Jesus as the Messiah. In this passage, however, Jesus is beginning to teach his disciples that he would be the Messiah in a different way.

Jesus would be more like the suffering servant described by the prophet Isaiah than the political liberator. Those who would be Jesus' disciples would be called to a similar life of service. Perhaps this is what Peter feared most in Jesus' prediction of his Passion. He whom Jesus had called "rock" would also be called upon to offer himself in sacrifice and service to others.

Peter doesn't yet get this in today's Gospel. As it was for Jeremiah, the cross is a stumbling block for Peter. This is our natural temptation, as well: to refuse to believe that our sufferings play a necessary part in God's plan. What Jeremiah learns in today's First Reading is what Jesus states explicitly in today's Gospel. To follow Him is to take up a cross, to deny yourself—your priorities, preferences, and comforts. It is to be willing to give it all up, even life itself, for the sake of His Gospel. As Paul says in today's Epistle, we have to join ourselves to the Passion of Christ, to offer our bodies—our whole beings—as living sacrifices to God. (*Excerpts: My Catholic Life; Loyola Press; Loyola Press: Scott Hahn Reflections.*)

PARISH NEWS

Weekly Prayer

On the first weekend of the month, we remember the birthdays of those who were born in the month of September. Let us congratulate and pray for them:

Heavenly Father! We thank You for the gift of life You have given to our celebrants. Kindly keep showing them Your grace and we seek that You continue to bless them. We make this prayer through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Schedules for 2026-27 Children's Sacraments

The Preparation Class Schedules for children receiving Confirmation and First Holy Communion are now available on our website. Please review it for conflicts with your family calendar. Registration forms for in-person interviews for both sacraments are now available on our website until **October 9**. Please call Fr. Mani to make an appointment for a meeting in September.

75th Anniversary Gifts for Volunteers

Fr. Mani would like to meet with each of the parish volunteers after any Mass to receive a special 75th Anniversary souvenir gift bag. The gift is offered in thanks for your involvement and service to the parish. **N.B.** Other parishioners may purchase the souvenir gift bag for \$10 by calling the office. It contains a parish cup, parish pen, and letterpress St. Michael prayer card.

Summer Music Series – Closing Concert

We are very grateful to the musicians who donated their time and considerable talents to offer us four excellent musical evenings. The quality of programs and performance were of the highest. Thank you to the parishioners who attended – we were all enraptured! The next and last concert will take place on Friday, **September 25** at 7:30 pm.

Season of Creation 2026

The annual event of the Season of Creation begins on September 1 (the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation) and ends on October 4 on the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, patron saint of ecology. This year's theme is "Living Water" and the symbol is "Immersion in Living Water", inspired by Ezekiel 47: 9 and 12. For more information contact ecumenicalandinterfaith@archtoronto.org or call 647-258-4740. A Novena to St. Francis and an

introductory video are available at the following links: <https://cafod.org.uk/Pray/Prayer-resources/Novena-to-St-Francis>; Video: bit.ly/3RFGLiW.

Annual Youth Conference

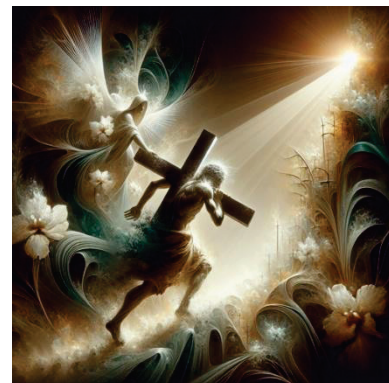
Renew Toronto invites all young adults aged 18 to 39 to join together on Christ the King weekend, **November 20-21**. The theme this year is John 16:33: "Take courage! I have overcome the world." This is your chance to grow in faith alongside like-minded individuals who are in the same exciting stage of life. This conference will equip and inspire young adults to confidently understand and defend the Catholic faith in today's world. Through engaging talks, practical workshops and meaningful conversations, participants will explore the "why" behind what the Church teaches and how to share those truths with clarity, charity and conviction. Register at: www.renewtoronto.org. The price goes up on October 2nd.

Lumen Gentium 2026-27

Lumen Gentium is a fellowship program for building up Catholic leaders for the Church and society. Through a rich curriculum in applied Catholic Social Doctrine and Virtuous Leadership, Lumen empowers young Catholic professionals to live out a Christian mission in their career and cultural engagement. Recruitment continues for candidates to join the next cohort of the Lumen Gentium Forum—a nine-month fellowship program beginning September for young Catholic professionals (aged 25-40), offered by CAPP-Canada in collaboration with the Archdiocese of Toronto. Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis and will close once a full cohort has been formed. Apply at www.lumenforum.ca.

Vocations

"For what will it profit anyone to gain the whole world but forfeit their life?" Isn't there more to life than chasing the dollar? Are you being called to be a priest, deacon, brother or sister? Humbly ask the Lord. If God is calling you, contact Fr. David Twaddle, Director of Vocations, Archdiocese of Toronto at 416-261-7207 or by email at vocations@archtoronto.org.





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